

Before submission we need to check that your review is eligible for inclusion in PROSPERO.

Completing these questions before registration is intended to prevent you wasting time filling out a form if your project is not eligible for PROSPERO.

Is this a scoping, literature or mapping review?

Does this review have at least one outcome directly related to human health or is it a methodology review that has a clear link to human health?

Is this a Cochrane review?

Is this a mini or partial review done for a training course or classwork or are you using the system to learn how to register?

PROSPERO provides registration free of charge and operates on a modest budget. We do not have funds or resource to process applications for reviews that are being done only for training purposes. This means we cannot accept registrations for mini reviews restricted to a subset of eligible studies, for demonstrator reviews where a whole class is doing the same systematic review, or any other projects that are less than full systematic reviews. However you may use and save the PROSPERO registration form in your own space provided you do not SUBMIT it for publication. You can also save your entry as a pdf to show to teachers or supervisors. It will not be published on the PROSPERO site and no registration number will be granted.

Have you searched PROSPERO to identify similar reviews?

Checking to see if a similar review already exists is good practice and should be one of the first steps taken in systematic review.

Knowingly repeating an existing systematic review is not necessarily wrong but to avoid research waste there should be a good reason for doing this - e.g. if the new review will use new or alternative methods of analysis or a different focus.

I have checked PROSPERO and...

If you are deliberately repeating a systematic review you should make the reasons for this clear in the registration record, in your full protocol and in the outputs of your completed review.

If you find a similar review registered in PROSPERO, but are unsure if it is the same or if it will be completed, we suggest that you contact the person responsible for the review to find out.

PROSPERO does not prevent people registering similar reviews. However all registrations are dated and a journal may decline to publish a review that has deliberately repeated a registered review without due justification.

Have you written a protocol?

We strongly encourage you to write your protocol before completing the registration form (although you may proceed without doing this)

Will more than one person be involved in the systematic review?

We strongly recommend that you follow best practice and include more than one person in the review team. At present you may continue as a single author, but in future PROSPERO may only accept registrations if there is more than one person conducting the review

Do you intend to publish the results of your systematic review and/or make them publicly available when completed?

PROSPERO aims to increase transparency and help prevent unintended duplication of effort. This requires that the results of systematic reviews should be made publicly available e.g. by publication in an academic journal, posting in a research repository or being made available on a permanent website. We therefore do not accept registrations from systematic reviews that will not be made available to others e.g. projects that are internal to an organization or company, or masters dissertations if it is known that these will not be shared.

Stage of review

What work have you already done on your systematic review?

Preliminary searches

Piloting the study selection process

Formal screening of search results against eligibility criteria

Data extraction

Risk of bias (quality) assessment

Data analysis

What stage is your review at regarding data analysis?

Please now go ahead and [register your review](#).